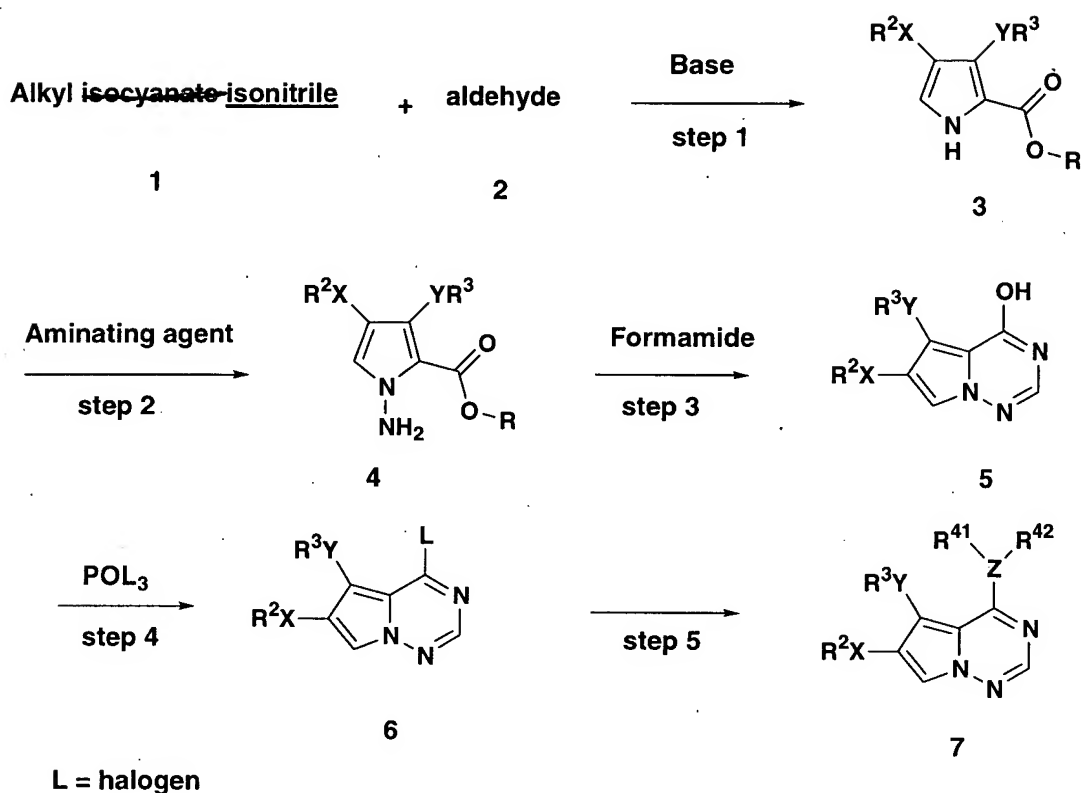


## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 20, please make the following amendments:

### Scheme 1



#### Step 1

This step is accomplished by the reaction of two equivalents of optionally substituted aldehyde (1) such as isobutyraldehyde, with alkyl isonitrile ~~isocyanate~~ in the presence of a mild base like DBU to obtain compound 3.